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February 10, 2015

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 14-28: Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I would like to respectfully request the FCC delay action on the upcoming Open Internet rules. My name is Tyson Burris, President of Internet Communications Inc. My company provides wireless broadband services to approximately 1000 rural and suburban residents in and around the Franklin, Indiana area, southeast of Indianapolis. I'm very concerned about the excessive burdens Title II regulation will impose on my small business.

My fixed wireless broadband company is very similar to thousands of others operating across America. Our industry provides broadband service to millions of Americans, who often have no other choice except satellite Internet. Most of our companies are self-funded and receive no government subsidies. Our businesses were spawned by necessity when the demand for consumer/business broadband grew. More often than not, large national companies were not interested in investing in rural areas with lower demographics. As residents of these communities, certain outgoing entrepreneurs recognized the need for their community to have broadband and risked personal financial and time resources and the availability of unlicensed spectrum to bring a solution to these communities.

I and most other small business ISP's are very concerned about what appears to be a one size fits all rule. While larger regional or national ISPs may be able to absorb new regulatory burdens, companies such as ours will not. In many cases, I believe the smaller companies will need to close down. The alternative will be to raise consumer Internet prices excessively in order to add staff necessary to comply with new regulatory burdens.

I'm also very concerned about potential legal actions my company may become liable for when the FCC becomes the gatekeeper for consumer complaints about broadband speed and price. The cost to defend my company against these potential complaints will be excessive and will most likely result in the extinction of many broadband services across the country. The result of which will be just the opposite of what is really needed. Title II will remove competition in the industry and given historic economic principles, will result in higher prices and lower service availability.



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The President recently stated the he wants to increase competition in the industry by allowing public entities, such as municipalities to provide taxpayer funded broadband. I find it ironic, that in parallel to this effort, he is also promoting over burdensome regulation on private companies already vested in the industry and placing them at a higher risk of failing. This makes no sense to me.

It would seem that if the US government wants to improve broadband speeds and coverage ubiquitously across the nation, the FCC should pause and reflect before imposing Title II regulation. The government should look at the entire ISP industry as <u>partners</u> in building a better Internet for America instead of treating the industry as opposition. We provide the onramps to the Internet and I believe each and every ISP would love to improve their service capabilities in order to meet consumer demand. I know I would. I believe the US government should instead, look at programs that provide incentives to ALL ISPs to improve these services, instead of creating regulation to put them out of business.

As a small business owner, I recognize that my little voice will probably have little bearing on what appears to be a slam dunk partisan approval of Title II as an attempt to appease the NetNeutrality proponents. However, I would be doing my customers, my employees, my family and my business a great disservice if I was to sit back and do nothing. Therefore, I am writing to "keep it real". It is important that those inside the Beltway understand the far reaching impacts their decisions will make. I am for an Open Internet, but I do not believe Title II regulation is the appropriate vehicle to deliver satisfactory results.

Please defer action later this month and work with Congress to develop a better set of rules to protect an Open Internet without driving long time ISP companies out of business.

Sincerely,

Tyson Burris, President

Internet Communications, Inc.

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